

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the following discussion and in view of the present amendment, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-15 and 22-24 are allowed. Claims 18 and 21 were objected to and have been rewritten in independent form to be allowable as indicated by the Examiner and discussed below. Claims 16-17 and 19-20 are cancelled. Claims 1-15, 18, and 21-24 are pending and under consideration. Only allowable claims remain in the application. This amendment is believed to place the application in condition for allowance, and entry therefore is respectfully requested.

I. Subject Matter

Claims 1-15 and 22-24 are allowed.

In the Office Action, at pages 5-6, claims 18 and 21 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 18 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Thus, it is submitted that claim 18 is in a condition suitable for allowance.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner erred in objecting to claim 21 in this manner. Claim 21 depends from claim 1, which has been indicated as allowed by the Examiner. Thus, it is submitted that claim 21 is in a condition suitable for allowance. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

There being no other objections or rejections, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, which Action is respectfully requested. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Docket No.: 1614.1362

Serial No. 10/664,024

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: _____

4-19-07

By: _____

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